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Docket No.: 0941-1716PUS1

Application No. 10/522,846
Amendment dated January 19, 2007
Reply to Office Action of September 19, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7 and 8 are now present in this application.

The specification and claims 1, 3 and 4 have been amended, and claims 5 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently herewith. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner confirm his consideration of the documents cited therein by returning an initialed PTO/SB/08 form to the undersigned.

Rejection under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Wiley, U.S. Patent 4,693,560. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 5-7 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Grave, U.S. Patent 6,144,359. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

For a proper rejection of a claim under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b), the cited reference must disclose all elements/features/steps of the claim. See, e.g., E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. v. Phillips Petroleum Co., 849 F.2d 1430, 7 USPQ2d 1129 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Independent claim 1 of the present application sets forth (emphasis added):

1. A transreflective liquid crystal display device with a reflective mode using external light and a transmissive mode using a light source, comprising:
a light source for use in the transmissive mode;

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a liquid crystal panel, arranged over said light source, operating as a first display element in the transmissive mode and being turned off in the reflective mode; and

an optical element comprising an arrangement of pixels and a color filter over said liquid crystal panel, for operating as a second display element in the reflective mode without using a transflector and for operating as a color filtering unit in the transmissive mode.

It is respectfully submitted that the prior art utilized by the Examiner fails to teach or suggest at least the optical element and liquid crystal panel set forth in independent claim 1.

For example, on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the liquid crystal cell 14 operates as display element in the transmissive mode and that both liquid crystal cell 12 and transflector 16 serve as the claimed optical element to operate as display element in the reflective mode. However, liquid crystal cell 14 in Wiley is not identical to the presently claimed liquid crystal panel. As discussed on column 8, lines 19-39 of Wiley, “*at night, display 10 acts as a totally transmissive display. The contrast and brightness of the display are determined by the product of the performance of liquid crystal cells 12 and 14.* Thus, the display would have a contrast ratio (‘CR’) equal to CR₁₂ (CR of cell 12) × CR₁₄ (CR of cell 14). *The brightness of the display, the light intensity of the ‘on’ pixels, for example, is controlled by the intensity of backlight 18, the product of light transmission (% B) of liquid crystal cell 12 and 14 (% B₁₂ × % B₁₄), and the transmission of transflector 16. In bright sun, display 10 acts as a reflective display, comprising liquid crystal cell 12 and transflector 16’.*

Wiley therefore teaches that the display 10 in reflective mode uses liquid crystal cell 12 and the transflector 16 to perform a reflective display, and uses the liquid crystal cells 12 and 14 and the transflector 16 to perform a transmissive display in the transmissive mode. However, in

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the transmissive mode, the display element is still the liquid crystal cell 12 and the transflector 16, and the liquid crystal cell 14 is used to control whether light from backlight 18 can be transmitted to the liquid crystal cell 12. Namely, in the transmissive mode, the liquid crystal cell 14 serves as a switch rather than another display element, as is set forth in independent claim 1 of the present application. Hence, Wiley only teaches that the liquid crystal cell 12 serves as a first display element in the reflective mode but does not teach that the liquid crystal cell 14 serves as second display element while the liquid crystal cell 12 serves as a color filtering unit.

The optical element of the present application serves as a display element without a transflector. This is unlike Wiley, in which display 10 requires the transflector 16 to perform a reflective display. Hence, Wiley does not teach that the liquid crystal cell 14 serves as a display element displaying images while the optical element (liquid crystal cell 12 and transflector 16) serves as a color filtering unit. In particular, the liquid crystal cells 12 and 14 do not serve as a display element to display images in different modes, as is set forth in independent claim 1 of the present application.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the prior art utilized by the Examiner fails to teach or suggest the device of independent claim 1 and its dependent claims. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC 102 rejections are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

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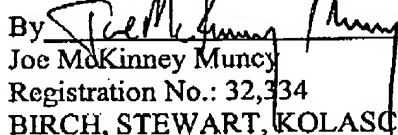
Because the additional prior art cited by the Examiner has been included merely to show the state of the prior art and has not been utilized to reject the claims, no further comments concerning these documents are considered necessary at this time.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: January 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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